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second installment which is sufficiently varied to please all. The Semi-palmated Plover, Great-horned Owl, American Eider Duck, American Osprey and Ruby-throated Hummingbird, are each allotted a full page illustration and two pages of text. The plates are very artistic and the figures easily identified; but the attempt to give the life history of any one species of our birds in a page and a half of matter written in a popular form, while praiseworthy, can scarcely fail of falling short of the desired result. It is to be hoped that Mr. Reed will receive the support necessary to the continuance of a work so expensive, as this must be,

A Summer Reconnoissance in the West is an account of a 7000 mile journey taken last summer by a College Professor and a Clergyman for the purpose of studying the avi'fauna of various localities in the great West. As it is a W. O. C. publication, we shall not review it here; but cannot forbear pronouncing it the most remarkable record of its kind ever made. The Authors were the pioneer advocates of the value of "bird horizons," and are most expert at this work. We would advise those who have not already secured this paper to send 20 cents to Prof. Lynds Jones, Oberlin, Ohio, and get a copy before the edition is exhausted.

[F. L. B.]

Our Feathered Friends by Elizabeth Grinnell and Joseph Grinnel, with Introduction by William Palmer. Published by D. C. Heath & Co.

This little volume of 144 pages is written for children in a language which can easily understand. It has grown of a deep love for the birds and a keen desire to start the children on the right path. The subject matter is largely drawn from the personal experiences of the authors in their efforts to make friends among the birds, and is so full of life and color. The illustrations in the text are mostly drawn for this book to tell something definite about the bird or birds figured. The three full page photographs of the Hummingbird family cannot fail to greatly interest all. If there is one thing of more interest than another in this little book it is the story of the two robins taken from the nest in New England and raised and kept in Pasadena.

Here we feel the touch of the bird personality. The book is full of hints how we may gather the birds about us and keep them there year after year. It should be in every home.

[L. J.]

Birds of Pennsylvania, et al., by H. B. Warren, M. D. Published by the Authority of the Commonwealth. The history of the publication of the various "Bird Books" begins properly with the enactment entitled "The Bounty Law" on June 23rd, 1885, the date which it received the Governor's signature. This law in brief was the establishment of premiums for the destruction of certain noxious birds and animals, namely Hawks, Owls, (excepting the Acadian, Screech or Barn Owls), Wild Cats, Foxes, Minks, and Weasels; "for the benefit of agriculture and the protection of game." It was not until six months had passed or the beginning of 1886 that this law became generally known. The person killing a Hawk or Owl was entitled to the sum of fifty cents for each and every one presented at the office of a Justice of Peace, that official being recompensed for the issuance of certificate and the cremation of the head of the bird, by the further sum of twenty cents per bird. Soon the demands upon the Commissioners and Treasurers of the rural Counties increased at an alarming rate. In eighteen months over \$100,000, had been paid out, of this at least \$75,000, represented the premiums paid on over a hundred thousand Hawks and Owls, principally the following species, although of course many of the less common species were represented: *Falco sparverius* American Sparrow Hawk, *Buteo borealis* Red-tailed Hawk, *Buteo lineatus* Red-shouldered Hawk, *Accipiter cooperi* Cooper's Hawk, *Accipiter elox* Sharp-shinned Hawk, *Buteo latissimus* Broad-winged Hawk, *Circus hudsonius* Marsh Hawk, *Asio wilsonianus* long-eared Owl, *Asio accipitrinus* Short-eared Owl, *Buteo virginianus* Great-horned Owl.

The "Scalp Act" as it was called soon became very unpopular with the county officials on account of the increased amount of work without extra compensation. This quickly extended to the tax-payers, first from the heavy expense incurred, and later from a doubt as to the wisdom of destroying without